

Reading WARRIORS Guide

Explore new lands.
Establish and defend territory.

Be a Reading Warrior.

The Reading Warriors Summer Reading Challenge is rooted in the legends and adventures of the warrior cats in Erin Hunter's bestselling Warriors series. Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here for a summer reading adventure with the Warriors!

www.readingwarriors.com

WHAT IS A READING WARRIOR?

A Reading Warrior hungers for books and the magical journeys we take through reading. Are you ready to become a Reading Warrior?

When you accept the Reading Warriors Summer Reading Challenge, you **EXPLORE** new lands through books, **ESTABLISH** your own reading territory, and **DEFEND** your right to read!



YOU CAN BE A READING WARRIOR

Do you have what it takes to be a Reading Warrior? Read on to find out!

- 🐾 You start as a **Kit**. A Kit must be at least ninety-six moons old (that's eight years old) to begin the Reading Warriors Summer Reading Challenge. Your first challenge will be to read five books.
- 🐾 Once you've read five books, you become an **APPRENTICE**. Your territory will be your Reading Warriors Den—a special place you create for reading.
- 🐾 As an Apprentice, you'll be on the hunt for more good books. Ask other Reading Warriors and elders where to find good prey.
- 🐾 As an Apprentice, you must read five more books, including one from the Warriors series. Then you become a **READING WARRIOR**!
- 🐾 Once you are a Reading Warrior, you must make an important decision. You can read on to become either a **DEPUTY** or a **MEDICINE CAT**. Which path will you choose?
- 🐾 If you choose to become a Deputy, you must tell other readers about two delicious books you've caught. Encourage them to read the books, too. You must also read aloud to a person who can't read very well—someone younger than a Kit or someone who has trouble seeing or reading.
- 🐾 If you choose to become a Deputy, you can then read on to become a **CLAN LEADER**! To become a Clan Leader, you must read an entire six-book arc in the Warriors series.
- 🐾 If you choose the path of the Medicine Cat, you must read six more books, including the *Warriors Field Guide: Secrets of the Clans*; two more Warriors titles; and a nonfiction book about plants, cats, or medicine.

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YOUR PATH AS A READING WARRIOR



READING WARRIORS CODE

Warrior cats live by a code that guides them through life. The Reading Warriors Code will guide you through your Summer Reading Challenge.

1. Warrior cats defend their Clan, even if they must go into battle against a friend. You may have friendships with nonreaders, but defend your right to read and set aside time each day for books.
2. Marking territory is one of the first things an apprentice cat learns. As a Reading Warrior, mark your territory by writing the titles of the books you read on the downloadable map of the forest.
3. The strongest warrior cats are honorable. Honorable Reading Warriors record book titles on their maps only after they have finished reading them.
4. Just as warrior cats thank StarClan for prey, Reading Warriors must thank elders, booksellers, and librarians who help them find good books.
5. A warrior cat cares for the condition of his Clan's camp. A true Reading Warrior cares for all books and returns library and borrowed books on time and in good condition.
6. Like warrior cats, Reading Warriors have their own dens. Your den is your special territory where you can spend time with books.
7. Before an Apprentice cat becomes a Warrior, he or she must guard the camp in silence until dawn. Before you become a Reading Warrior, you must keep a silent vigil at home. Tell your family that you will use your quiet time to enjoy another book. When your vigil has ended, you have become a Reading Warrior!
8. A warrior cat shows compassion by offering fresh-kill to kits and elders to a cat who may be unable to hunt. A Reading Warrior shows compassion by sharing books with children who may not have them.
9. Warrior Clans meet each month at the full moon. Reading Warriors gather with other readers to share ideas found in books and to invent new stories and games.
10. A warrior cat rejects the soft life of a kittypet. A Reading Warrior rejects the dull life of a nonreader.



READING WARRIORS ON THE HUNT

Remember: Hunt safely, and if you don't have the taste for a book, you don't have to finish reading it. Get out and hunt again!

HOW TO HUNT

Choose your prey: What do you have a taste for? Do you like fact or fiction, mystery or comedy? Do you want to read about real people, places, and events or imaginary ones? Do you want a good laugh, a good scare, or a good cry?

Stalk your prey: Find the section in the bookstore or library that contains the kind of books you like. Stalk your prey by walking slowly down the aisles and looking at the books and book displays. When you see something you like, pounce!

Examine your prey: Pick up the book and make sure it's what you want. Judge the size of your prey: How many pages does it have? Read the back cover, inside flap, or first few pages. Does it sound interesting? If so, put it in your pile. Later, narrow your choices to those books you want to check out or can afford to buy.

Share your prey: After you've devoured a delicious book, tell your friends and family members about it. In turn, they might share their prey with you. And remember, the author of one delicious book may have written others!



WHERE TO HUNT

The best hunting ground is a well-organized place where you are sure to find many books. Try:

- 🐾 a public library
- 🐾 a school library, which may be open during the summer
- 🐾 a bookstore, online bookseller, department store, or any store that sells books

Once you are skilled at finding prey, try more challenging hunting grounds, such as yard sales or thrift stores.

HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR PREY



- 🐾 It will have a spine, but no bones.
- 🐾 It will have a body, but no head.
- 🐾 It will often wear a jacket, but feels no cold or warmth.

CLAIM YOUR TERRITORY

Warrior cats' dens are well-protected and comfortable. Claim your reading territory by creating a Reading Warriors Den—a special place where you have everything you need to read in peace and quiet. Ask yourself the following questions as you choose your den:

Can you get to your den easily? If you like to read in your bedroom, that might be the best spot for your den. But you might also choose a more hidden place, like a laundry room, a closet under the stairs, or a porch.

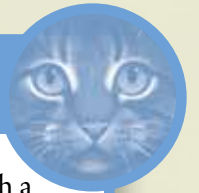
Is your den quiet? Make sure to choose a place where you won't be distracted by loud noises, such as the TV, radio, or traffic.

Is your den comfortable? Depending on what you like, your den might have a comfy chair or big pillows in your favorite color. Have some snacks on hand in case you get hungry or thirsty as you read.

Does your den have plenty of light? Cats see well in the dark, but Reading Warriors need light for reading. Locate your den near a window or an outlet where you can plug in a lamp.

Did you ask before marking your territory? You may need to move furniture or hang a curtain to create your den. Be sure to check with other family members before making any changes.

IMPORTANT



Mark your territory with a sign. You can print a sign at www.readingwarriors.com or you can make your own.

TALKING and WRITING ABOUT BOOKS

Keept track of the prey you've hunted this summer by recording it in a Reading Warriors Journal. Follow the instructions below to make a journal of your own.

- 🐾 Make ten or more copies of the journal page from www.readingwarriors.com.
- 🐾 Make a cover for your journal: Cut two blank sheets of paper to the size of the journal pages. Staple the blank journal pages between them. Decorate the cover of your journal.
- 🐾 For each book you read, fill in a journal page. Write down the title and author's name, and then run wild by writing and/or drawing about your prey!
- 🐾 Rate your book by giving it one, two, or three cat paws: One paw for bland, two paws for tasty, and three paws for delicious!
- 🐾 Share ideas from your journal with elders or with other Reading Warriors at a Gathering.

READING **WARRIORS** JOURNAL

Title: _____

Author: _____

How many cat paws do you give this book?



RUN WILD with your prey in the space below. Choose from the ideas listed here, or follow your wild imagination! Write about or draw your favorite part of the story.

Draw a picture of the setting.

Pretend you are a character in the story and write your thoughts and feelings.

Write a conversation with one of the characters.

Write a different ending to the story.



READING **WARRIORS** FIELD GUIDE TO BOOKS

This list was created in part by the Quicklist Consulting Committee of the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association.



Use the reading list here to help find your prey. **Remember:** The books listed here are suggested titles only. While you must read several Warriors books to achieve Clan positions, you are also free to read any book you choose.

KIT

Byars, Betsy. *Dog Diaries: Secret Writings of the WOOF Society*. Holt, 2007. Assorted dogs share tales of famous dogs throughout history.

De Mari, Silvana. *The Last Dragon*. Hyperion, 2006. Yorsh, the world's last elf, embarks on a quest to decode a prophecy and find the world's last dragon.

Sachar, Louis. *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*. HarperCollins, 2004. At the thirty-story Wayside School, children get turned into apples, dead rats wear raincoats, and little girls try to sell their toes!

APPRENTICE

Corder, Zizou. *Lion Boy: The Truth*. Dial, 2004. A boy who speaks the language of cats leaves London to seek his kidnapped parents and finds himself on a Paris-bound circus ship learning to train lions. The first in a trilogy.

Helgeson, Joseph. *Horns and Wrinkles*. Illustrated by Nicolette Ceccoli. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. On the banks of the magical Mississippi River, Claire and her bullying cousin Duke outsmart wily trolls with the help of a fairy.

Yep, Laurence. *The Tiger's Apprentice*. HarperTrophy, 2004. Tom Lee's life changes forever when he meets a talking tiger named Mr. Hu and enters a world where Chinese myth becomes reality. This title begins The Tiger's Apprentice trilogy.

WARRIOR

Remember: To become a Warrior, you must read one Warriors title. Go to www.readingwarriors.com for a list of titles.

Avi. *Ragweed*. Illustrated by Brian Floca. HarperCollins, 2006. Ragweed the mouse hops a freight train to the big city, where he joins a clan of hip and musical mice and wages war against hostile cats. Ragweed is part of The Poppy Stories series.

Couloumbis, Audrey. *Maude March on the Run!* Random House, 2007. Accused of robbery, Maude and her sister, Sallie, flee the authorities through the Wild West.

Funke, Cornelia. *Igraine the Brave*. Scholastic, 2007. In a family of magicians, twelve-year-old Igraine wants to be a knight.

DEPUTY

If you choose to become a Deputy, you need to complete two tasks:

First, you must tell other readers about two good books you've read.

Second, you must read aloud to a person who is unable to read well—someone younger than a Kit or someone who has trouble seeing or reading. Visit www.dropeverythingandread.com for a list of books to read aloud.



MEDIGINE CAT

To become a Medicine Cat, you must read six more books, including the *Warriors Field Guide: Secrets of the Clans*; two additional Warriors titles, and a nonfiction title about plants, cats, or medicine.

Marrin, Albert. *Oh Rats! The Story of Rats and People*. Illustrated by C. B. Mordan. Dutton, 2006. Depending on who you are, rats can be well-trained pets, carriers of deadly disease, or a fine source of protein.

Singer, Marilyn. *Cats to the Rescue: True Tales of Heroic Felines*. Illustrated by Jean Cassels. Henry Holt, 2006. This fascinating collection shows the many roles cats have played, from mighty hunter to world traveler to bodyguard.

Stenhouse Kneidel, Sally. *Skunk Cabbage, Sundew Plants and Strangler Figs: And 18 More of the Strangest Plants on Earth*. John Wiley & Sons, 2001. Learn about plants that do strange and fascinating things, such as grow underground, fly, and provide homes for animals.

CLAN LEADER



To become a Clan Leader, you must read an entire six-book arc in the Warriors series. Go to www.readingwarriors.com for a complete list of Warriors titles.

Warriors Book 1: Into the Wild. Who will save the noble ThunderClan? Could it be a housecat named Rusty? The first of a six-book series.

Warriors: The New Prophecy Book 1: Midnight. Can young warrior Brambleclaw save the Clans, even though he is the son of the evil Tigerstar? The first of a six-book series.

Warriors: Power of Three Book 1: The Sight. The newest generation of warrior cats begins their training; but will the Clans survive? The first of a six-book series.

FOLLOWING THE PATH

As you follow the path from Kit to Apprentice to Reading Warrior, track your progress by coloring the cat's paw next to each step you have completed.



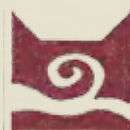
You begin as a **Kit**. Go to warriorcats.com and consult StarClan to find which Clan you belong to.

Write your warrior name here: _____

Circle your Clan name:



ThunderClan



WindClan



RiverClan



ShadowClan



Book 1: Read a book of your choice. Find **Twolegplace** on the map. Write the title of your first book here.



It's time to learn the territory! Find **ThunderClan Camp**, **WindClan Camp**, **RiverClan Camp**, and **ShadowClan Camp** on the map. Draw a star next to your own Clan camp.

Now it's time to roam. Don't forget to mark where you've been!



Book 2: Read a book of your choice. Leave your scent by writing the title at one of the Clan camps that is not your own.



Book 3: Read a book of your choice. Leave your scent by writing the title at one of the Clan camps that is not your own.



Book 4: Read a book of your choice. Leave your scent by writing the title at one of the Clan camps that is not your own.

Ready to head home?



Book 5: Read a book of your choice. Write the title at your own Clan camp.



Congratulations! You are now an Apprentice.



Read five more books, including one from the Warriors series. Leave your scent by writing the titles at locations 6–10.



Congratulations! You are now a Reading Warrior.

If You Choose the Path of Deputy



Recommend two books to others. Write the titles at Thunderpath (11) and the River (12).



Read aloud one book to someone else. Write the title at Ravenpaw and Barley's Farm (13).



Do you want to become a Clan Leader?

Read a six-book arc in the Warriors series. Write the titles at locations 14–19. Write the last title you read at Highstones (19). You are now a Clan Leader!

If You Choose the Path of Medicine Cat



Read six books, including the *Warriors Field Guide: Secrets of the Clans*. Write the titles at locations 11–16.



Read two more Warriors titles. Write the titles at Owl Tree (17) and Falls (18).



Read a nonfiction book about plants, cats, or medicine. Write the title at Highstones (19). You are now a Medicine Cat!



READING **WARRIORS** FURTHER READING

There's always fresh prey to find! Use this suggested reading list of new books and classic titles to help you achieve your Reading Warriors status. Remember, these are only ideas; you are free to read any book that you choose.

-  Babbitt, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting*. Square Fish, 1975.
-  Bath, K. P. *The Secret of Castle Cant*. Little, Brown, 2004.
-  Catling, Patrick Skene. *The Chocolate Touch*. HarperCollins, 1979.
-  Creech, Sharon. *The Wanderer*. HarperCollins, 2000.
-  Jennings, Patrick. *We Can't All Be Rattlesnakes*. HarperCollins, 2009.
-  Lowry, Lois. *The Giver*. Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 1993.
-  Prineas, Sarah. *The Magic Thief*. HarperCollins, 2008.
-  Raskin, Ellen. *The Westing Game*. Penguin, 1978.
-  Reiss, Johanna. *The Upstairs Room*. HarperCollins, 1972.
-  Riordan, Rick. *The Lightning Thief*. Hyperion, 2005.
-  Rollins, James. *Jake Ransom and the Skull King's Shadow*. HarperCollins, 2009.
-  Snicket, Lemony. *The Bad Beginning*. HarperCollins, 1999.
-  Spinelli, Jerry. *Stargirl*. Knopf, 2000.
-  Stewart, Trenton Lee. *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. Little, Brown, 2007.



THE PATH OF READING WARRIORS



KIT

APPRENTICE

WARRIOR

DEPUTY

MEDICINE
CAT

CLAN
LEADER

READING WARRIORS FUN and GAMES

You follow the strict code of the Reading Warrior, but that doesn't mean you can't have fun, too!

GARD GAMES



Create your own card games!

Go to www.readingwarriors.com and download the playing card pattern. Make copies of the pattern on card stock to make a deck of cards.

Use the four Clans—ThunderClan, WindClan, ShadowClan, and RiverClan—instead of hearts, spades, clubs, and diamonds. Use the Clan leadership—Clan Leader, Deputy, Medicine Cat, and Warrior—in place of the ace, king, queen, and jack. The rest of your deck can be made up of your favorite cats from each Clan. Number these cats 1–9.

Use this Warriors deck to play solitaire, rummy, crazy eights, or war. Ask other friends or a Reading Mentor to suggest fun card games, or create one of your own!



You can also create your own Warriors deck, with cards for territories, prey, predators, medicines, prophecies, ceremonies, and actions, such as hunting, dreaming, patrolling, or fighting. Use your knowledge of the Clans to create role-play games in which you and your friends take on the roles of the Warriors.

OUTDOOR FUN



Have a Cat's Paw Race. Using two pairs of socks, turn your hands and feet into cat's paws. Find a soft, grassy place to run on a lawn or in a park. Using your "paws," race your friends from camp to camp. May the best cat win!

Keep Away from the Kittypet is a fun game to play at an outdoor Gathering. Assign one person to be the kittypet who must stand in the middle of the circle of warriors. Warriors then begin to throw the ball to each other while the kittypet in the middle tries to catch it. If the kittypet catches the ball, he or she is allowed to change places with the last warrior to throw the ball.



READING WARRIORS PATROLS

Groups of Warriors patrol their territory to keep it safe and clean for all the members of their Clans. Use these patrol ideas to have fun and get involved in your community!



Elder Patrol The cats of the warrior Clans respect and care for their elders. Take an Elder Patrol to visit a nursing home or an elderly neighbor or relative. Ask how you can help. You might read aloud, help write letters, play games, or take short walks. You can also learn from the elders, who might enjoy telling stories about the past or sharing skills, such as woodworking, quilt making, or cooking.



Nature Patrol Clans depend on their environment for survival. A Reading Warrior uses reading to learn about caring for the planet and the people and animals that share it.



Trash Patrol Lead a Trash Patrol and clean up what Twolegs often leave behind. Pick up garbage at a park, along a beach, on a mountainside, along a riverbank, or in a wilderness area. Recycle whatever you can!



Hiking Patrol Take a Patrol on a hike in your favorite wild place. Look closely at the bugs, birds, animals, trees, and wildflowers you see there. Hiking through a natural area is a good way to stay healthy!

READING **WARRIORS** FAMILY TREE

Only StarClan knows about the family trees of some Warriors Clans. But you can use this family tree to learn more about your own family.

Ask the elders in your family to tell you the names of your ancestors. Find out how your family came to live where you live now, what special traditions you have, and what roles family members in your family had long ago. Write what you learn in the chart below.

My Father's Father

Name

I call him

What he's famous
for in our family

My Father's Mother

Name

I call her

What she's famous
for in our family

My Mother's Father

Name

I call him

What he's famous
for in our family

My Mother's Mother

Name

I call her

What she's famous
for in our family

My Father

Name

I call him

What he's famous for in our family

My Mother

Name

I call her

What she's famous for in our family

Me

Name

I'm called

What I'm famous for in our family

My favorite family story is: _____

READING WARRIORS FUN and GAMES

Know the *Forest* Clan Medicine Cats know which plants in the forest are helpful medicines and which are harmful poisons. Do you? See if you can match the plants below to the correct descriptions.

Note: Reading the Warriors series and the book *Warriors Field Guide: Secrets of the Clans* can help you learn the important medicines and their uses.

Match the Plant to Its Description

(**NEVER** treat an animal, person, or yourself with these herbs.)

BORAGE LEAVES

A flowering plant, a bit like a dandelion, with yellow or white flowers. Leaves can be chewed into a pulp, which is eaten to help with shortness of breath.

BURDOCK

Leafy plant normally found in Twoleg gardens. The best remedy for greencough.

CATMINT

Can be recognized by its small blue or pink star-shaped flowers and hairy leaves. Nursing queens chew and eat it to help with their supply of milk.

COLTSFOOT

Small black seeds from a dried poppy flower; fed to cats to help them sleep.

DEATHBERRIES

A tall-stemmed, sharp-smelling thistle with dark leaves. The roots are dug up, washed, chewed into a pulp, and used to treat rat bites—especially infected ones.

GOLDENROD

A leafy green plant found in streams or damp earth. Usually chewed into a pulp and fed to a cat suffering from bellyache.

HOLLY BERRIES

Small to medium evergreen tree with red berries that can be fatally poisonous to kits and elders. Also known as yew.

JUNIPER BERRIES

A tall plant with bright yellow flowers. A poultice of this plant is terrific for healing wounds.

LAVENDER

A small purple flowering plant. Cures fever.

MARIGOLD

A bright orange or yellow flower that grows low to the ground. The petals or leaves can be chewed into a pulp and applied to wounds. Stops infections.

POPPY SEED

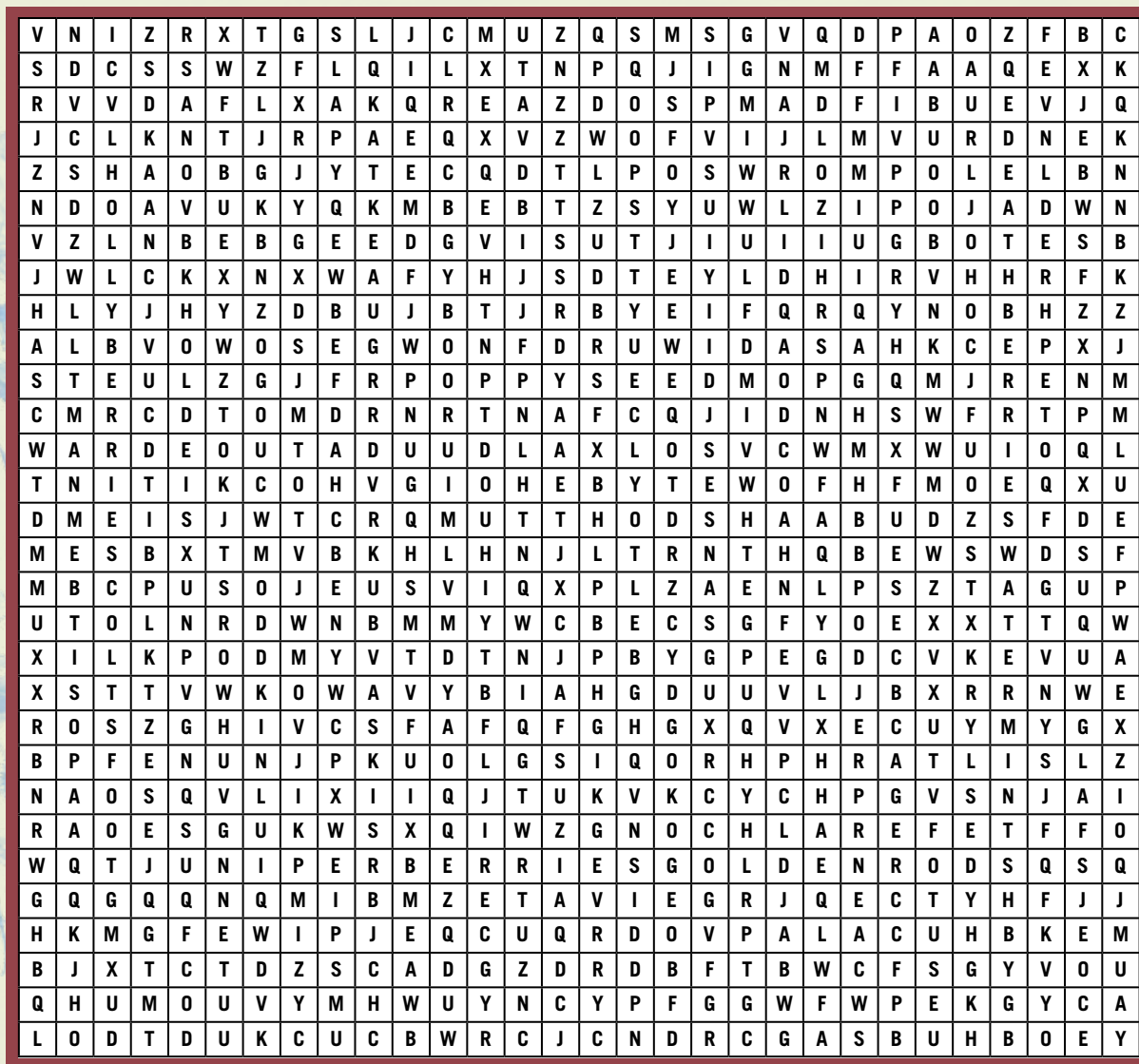
Plant with spiny leaves that produces red berries with no medicinal value.

WATERMINT

A bush with spiky dark green leaves and purple berries. The berries soothe bellyache and help cats who are having trouble breathing.

SEARCH THE FOREST

Now that you've identified the plants in the matching game, search the puzzle below for their names. Use a highlighter to mark your answers.



What Clan image have your answers formed?

READING WARRIORS CHALLENGE



Using a field guide to plants and flowers, see how many of these plants you can find in your neighborhood.